A

PROPOSAL

For Raiſing a

STOCK

Not exceeding

Forty thouſand Pounds Sterling ;

BY

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FOR

Forming a Settlement,

IN A

Large and Convenient River in *Acadia*.

AND TO

Improve a great Space of Land on each ſide the ſaid River.

LONDON,
Printed for the Author, in the Year 1716.

(*Price* 1 *s.*)

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

A Propoſal *for Raiſing a Stock, not exceeding Forty thouſand Pounds Sterling, by* Subſcriptions, *for Forming a Settlement in a large and convenient River in* Acadia; *and to Improve a great Space of Land on each ſide the ſaid River.*

Acadia was yielded to our Crown by the French at the late Peace, and is now in their Breaſt to diſpoſe of.

This great ſpace of Land from *Caſco-Bay* along the Eaſtern Coaſt to the French Colony at *Cape Bretone*, the Mouth of St. *Laurence Bay*, and for many Miles up the main Continent is not yet diſpoſed of, and does lie uninhabited but by a ſmall Body of Indians, except an Engliſh Garriſon we have there, called *Annapolis Royal.*

The Land is extraordinary good for growth of all kind of Grain, Hemp, and Flax; whereon grows ſeveral ſorts of Timber, as Oak, Pine, Furr, and Wallnut, *&c.* and good Paſture for Cattle in plenty, which rots on the Ground every Year for want of Inhabiting.

There are ſeveral Rivers in this deſolate Place both great and ſmall, but the moſt advantagious River fit for the Undertaking is near the Mouth of the Bay of *Fundie*, a ſmall diſtance Weſtward of *Annapolis Royal.*

A Grant of Poſſeſſion, or Patent, may be had of our Crown when deſired, for ſo much Land on each ſide the River the Society will improve.

The Fiſhing Banks at *Cape Sables* are near to this River, which abound with Cod Fiſh, and they come near the Shore adjacent in great Shoals that ſmall Shalops will get them along the Coaſt in abundance.

Beſides, Sloops may be ſent from the Settlement a Fiſhing on theſe Banks, and by being near, the Sloops will return every Week.

Likewiſe the Mackerel Fiſhery will be of great advantage, they are on the Coaſt of *Acadia* twice every Year: Both ſorts of Fiſh will greatly ſubſiſt the Settlement, and to be Exported in great quantities abroad, being well known they will turn to a good Account at their ſeveral Markets.

This Knowledge of thoſe deſolate Parts and the great advantage that may be produced from thence, the Author gained when he was on that Continent at great Expence of Money and Time

But for more Intelligence to thoſe that have not been abroad, or on that Continent, I ſhall Diſcourſe a little concerning our Engliſh Colonies adjacent to Acadia.

The two firſt Colonies is called New England, they are very Populous of Britiſh Inhabitants throughout both Colonies, and do carry on a conſiderable Trade to moſt Parts abroad, chiefly to our Caribbee Iſlands in the Weſt-Indies, by exporting every Year great quantities of Proviſion, as Corn, Fleſh, Codfiſh and Mackarel ſalted in Barrel, with ſeveral other Neceſſaries, as Horſes and Timber, *&c.* To other Parts with Fiſh, Corn, Oil, Whalebone, Turpentine, Furs, Maſt-Yards, and Staves, *&c.*

Likewiſe Foreigners Trade with them for Ships Hulls to a great value every Year, and they take European Goods in lieu.

The chiefeſt Place of Trading in New England is Boſton, diſtance from the Bay of Fundie, or the Place propoſed to ſettle, about 70 Leagues.

Boſton is a large and populous Place, of ſeveral Thouſand of Britiſh Inhabitants, it equals any City of Great Britain for Trade, except London.

The other Engliſh Colonies on the ſame Continent are very Populous, and almoſt equals that of New England.

And for further Satisfaction to the Publick, the Author has provided an Intelligible Map of our Colonies on that Continent and of all Acadia, which Map will be kept at the Office for every ones View that comes.

The Author conſidering how Beneficial it will be for a Society to form a Settlement in one of thoſe Navigable Rivers of Acadia, and carry on a conſiderable Trade Abroad, whereby a great Profit will be every Year gained,

Does humbly propoſe,

That a Number of Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, and others, and particular an Invitation to thoſe that have been on that Continent and the Weſt Indies, (or that have a Knowledge of the Trade there carried on) will enter into publick Subſcriptions to raiſe a Stock not exceeding Forty Thouſand Pounds Sterling, and take Poſſeſſion of this large and deſolate River in Acadia, of ſeveral Miles up the Main Continent, and Improve the Land for 5 or 6 Miles or more in breadth on each ſide the River.

Whereby the Society will every Year ſupply the Weſt Indies with great Quantities of Proviſion and other uſeful Neceſſaries.

Portugal and the Mediterranean with Fiſh and Corn, &c.

Canary and Madera Iſlands with Timber and Pipe Staves, &c.

Here at Home with Oil, Whalebone, Turpentine, Fur, Hemp and Flax, Maſt-Yards, &c. A greater Account of Trading to thoſe ſeveral Parts will be mentioned in the Branches.

After every Branch is compleated and Trade carried on to thoſe ſeveral Places, the Profits will be ſo conſiderable, that each Subſcriber cannot fail of receiving double his Subſcription every Year.

The firſt Return of Profit after Imbarking in this Affair, will be in eighteen Months from Portugal, the Mediterranean, and the Weſt Indies, by ſupplying thoſe Places with Cod and Mackerel Fiſhery, and from ſome other Branch of Trade that will be carried on as ſoon as arrive at the Settlement. Beſides, conſiderable Remittance Home in Goods within the Time; and this firſt Return will be ſo large, that every Subſcriber will receive near as much as he Subſcribed, and the Profits will increaſe every Year as Improvements are made.

The Author is well aſſured, that every Branch here propoſed will anſwer the greateſt Increaſe of Stock.

But he conſiders this Improvement will require a greater Sum of Money to compleat than required by Subſcription, or the Profits of ſeveral Branches for ſome Years will produce, for if a greater Sum is Subſcribed, or to lay out the Profits of ſome of the Branches to compleat the whole Undertaking, will greatly leſſen the Benefit to each Subſcriber, therefore the Author has thought of Ways and Means to raiſe a Fund of Three Hundred Thouſand Pounds of New England Money, if ſo large a Fund is required, without being repaid again by the Society:

This Fund will pay the whole Body of Hands imployed, and ſupply the Settlement with many Neceſſaries till every Branch is finiſhed, the certainty of it the Author is well aſſured of, and accordingly 'tis incerted in this Propoſal.

And when every Branch is finiſhed, for the Society to appoint the Profit of any one Branch there carried on towards maintaining the Settlement in Neceſſaries, &c.

The other Branches will be clear Profit and very conſiderable every Year.

The manner how to raiſe this Fund at the Settlement of Three Hundred Thouſand Pounds that Country Money for the Society.

This conſiderable Sum of Money will not be otherwiſe repaid than by leaving off the Improved Land to the Poſſeſſors of the Settlements Bills, when a ſtop is put to further Proceeding after a certain length of Time, which I have here more plainly demonſtrated.

But for more Intelligence, I ſhall firſt mention concerning the Money that paſſes Current in New England, and the other Colonies adjacent.

The four Engliſh Colonies on that Part the Continent adjacent to Acadia, viz. Newhampſhire, Maſachuſet-Bay, Connecticute, and Rhode Iſland, did circulate Paper Money in the Year 1702. from an Eighteen Penny Bill to a Five Pound Bill, and to a conſiderable value each Colony.

The Bills are received into the Treaſury of Boſton, and the Treaſuries of the other three Colonies for Taxes, advancing one Shilling in every twenty, which is 5 per Cent. to the Poſſeſſors when received for theſe Taxes, for the Incouragement of the ſaid Bills; but theſe Bills do not paſs otherwiſe in Payment with any Intereſt thro' the Colonies, and when the Bills are received in the Treaſuries, they are circulated again and do ſtill continue in force, and in all Probability for many Years longer. Either one of the Colonies Bills paſſes current through the four Colonies.

Therefore as ſoon as the Settlement is formed to raiſe a Fund of Paper-Money, called Bills of Settlement, the Form I will declare when put in Execution.

This Fund of Paper-Money to be ſo large to the full value of the great Extent of Land the Society has a Patent for, and do Improve, which I am certain will exceed 300000 Pounds New England Money, and when forbear to proceed any longer Time after Ten, Twenty, Forty, or more Years, to recall the Settlements Paper-Bills, and diſpoſe of this Improved Land to the Poſſeſſors of the ſaid Bills.

Till then to have the Paper-Bills renewed as often as worn out, and they will be brought by the Poſſeſſors to any appointed Place on that Continent, to have new Bills of the like Value, and Stamps returned, which is uſed in the four Colonies, and by Misfortune to the Poſſeſſors of the Colonies Bills, for many of the ſaid Bills are every Year loſt while in their Hands, to their own Detriment, which does anſwer their Charge of renewing.

There need be no Intereſt annexed to the Settlements Bills, and they will be taken without any, for the four Colonies Advance on their Bills is in Taxes only, and they are raiſed accordingly.

The only Satisfaction the Poſſeſſors have, either a Native, or a Foreigner newly arriv'd, (who does not eſcape from a Tax being laid on him) as to reap this Advantage proportionable to 5 per Cent.

But the Poſſeſſors of the Settlement's Bills, either to the Hands employed or circulated in the adjacent Colonies, to be received again at the Settlement for like Value in Goods the Settlement produces, and will be more pleaſing without adding Intereſt to the Bills, for the Colonies will be every Year ſupplied with many Neceſſaries from this Settlement at a moderate Price. I ſhall Diſcourſe more particular concerning this Affair in the Coaſting Trade on that Continent.

When the Bills are received in Payment for Goods, or otherwiſe, to be Circulated again.

The Settlements Bills will be on a good Foundation, for Improved Land to the Eaſtward is acknowledged to be the beſt of the four Colonies; likewiſe this River is well ſituated near the Fiſhing Banks, whereas the Inhabitants of New England are obliged to go Fifty and more Leagues to theſe Banks for their Fiſh, theſe Advantages will make the Settlements Bills readily accepted in the adjacent Colonies.

But if the Settlements Bills ſhould meet with hindrance to the Circulating of them among the Colonies, through the Influence of a few Intereſted Perſons there, that may endeavour to give a hindrance, to permit Traders from Boſton and other Places at the firſt beginning to ſell their Goods at the Settlement and take theſe Paper Bills, they will take the Trouble to Circulate them in the Colonies, and when the Settlements Bills do paſs current throughout the four Colonies, the Society to put a ſtop to theſe Traders, and ſupply the Hands themſelves.

There may be printed 50000 l. of theſe Bills every Year for ſix Years, or a greater Sum if the Improved Land is of more value, and the Society to have printed the firſt 50000 l. of theſe Bills juſt before going for thoſe Parts, and annex them to the Goods that is to be ſent.

200000 Pounds of this Fund to pay the Hands that are hired, and ſo large a Sum will hold Paying for ſix Years and longer; ſome of the Hands will require greater Pay than others, according to their Knowledge in the Branches they are imployed, this Money to be received of them again for all manner of Clothing and Liquors, &c. the Society may aſſiſt every Year.

The advance on theſe Goods will be 300 per Cent. out of their Labour, as 1000 Pounds Sterling in European Goods will produce at the Settlement 4000 Pounds of this Paper Fund, for all Workmen and others in New England give no leſs for Goods out of the Shops in *Boſton*.

When any of the hired Hands leave their Service at the Settlement, and go to other Parts, and any of theſe Bills are in their Poſſeſſion received for Labour, to take the Product of the Place in lieu of the ſaid Bills.

100000 Pounds being the remainder of this Fund, to be Circulated in the adjacent Colonies for Neceſſaries, as Seed Corn for Growth, and Cattle for Breeding, &c. to be received again with their Bills in all Payments between the Colonies and the Settlement.

The Author can propoſe ſeveral Ways to Improve the Land on each ſide the River when cleared of the Woods, the chiefeſt Method to be followed for Profit I do here inſert.

But when arrived at the appointed Place, the Proceeding will be made according as the goodneſs of Land will permit, from the Mouth of the River up the main Continent as far as the River is Navigable, which Land may vary in Goodneſs at firſt clearing, but in few Years the Land will be greatly improved for the Societies Benefit.

The chief Place of Inhabiting to be near the Mouth of the River of about a Mile in length, whereon will be built Timber Houſes for Dwelling, and for keeping Stores, Stages for the Fiſhery, with Yards to build Ships, &c.

The whole quantity of Land on each ſide the River, and as many Miles up the Main Continent the ſaid River is Navigable to be thus improved.

Three quarters of the Land from the chief Place of Inhabiting to be regularly cleared of the Woods, and the Form to be uſed, to divide the Land into great and ſmall Squares, or oblong Parcels as the Land will permit (called Fields) which is done by leaving rows of Timber Trees ſtanding in convenient Places; it will be a great Benefit to the Cattle againſt the Heats and Colds of the Seaſons.

The Land on each ſide joining to the River of about a Mile in breadth, to be for Paſture Land, both to feed and make Winter Forage for all kind of Cattle and Horſes, and a great Breed will be on the Land in four Years time.

The next Land joining to the Paſture, of about three or four Miles in breadth on each ſide the River, and the full length of three quarters of the ſaid River to be for growth of all ſorts of Corn, Hemp and Flax.

The remainder part of the River, as far up as it is Navigable, for flat bottom Boats, to be for growth of ſeveral ſorts of Timber, both for Exportation Abroad and Services at the Settlement. Likewiſe Maſt and Yards will be had in great quantities from off the Land every Year.

The Woods that are appropriated for this uſe to be every Year improved, as to divide the whole quantity of Wood Land in 16, 18, or more Parts, each Part to be cut down every Year for theſe Services.

The Undertaking may be thought to be difficult, but the Author has conſidered this Affair, and knows how to proceed and compleat the ſaid Propoſal with eaſe, when a Society is formed to carry it on.

And if carried on, the chief Management at the Settlement to be in the Hands of three Perſons whom thought proper by the Directors here, for the Benefit of the whole Body; theſe three Perſons to be under the Command of the whole Body of Directors, and all Perſons imployed at the Settlement to be under their Command.

The Improvement of ſo large a quantity of Land will require about ſix Years to compleat, and a conſiderable Number of Hands,

But

But half of the whole Body of Hands will receive Pay, the other half may be had for a term of Years for Subſiſtance and Clothing only, by this Means.

The Society to have ſeveral Hands every Year from North Britain and Ireland to ſerve the Settlement for eight or ten Years,

And Negroes from the Weſt Indies, whoſe Servitude will be for Life; the Charge of Buying theſe Negroes will be inconſiderable to the great Supply the Settlement will ſend to the Weſt Indies, and buying of them will be more or leſs every Year, as Improvements are made.

A Supply of Hands from North Britain and Ireland is every Year followed to all our Colonies of America: they are bought by the Inhabitants from Commanders of Ships that bring them over, for a Term of Years, and afterwards they have their Liberty.

The Reaſon Commanders have this Privilege, they are by this means paid for their Paſſage, and with conſent of the Perſon ſo bought.

But the Societies Ships will Export theſe Hands to the Settlement without further Charge, and renew the Hands as often as the Servitude of others expire.

The whole Body of Hands to be divided into Companies for the better Management of each Branch, and each Company to have a head Perſon, and one, two, or more Aſſiſtants over them, according to the Number of Hands employed in each Branch.

But the Number of Hands to make the beginning will not be above 300, and they will increaſe every Year with eaſe, as Improvements are made.

To get this Number of Hands, viz. 300, at the time of going from hence, for the Chief Perſons whom the Directors orders to thoſe Parts, to carry along with them ſeveral Hands from hence, and in their Paſſage to America, put into Ireland and get ſeveral Hands there.

The Complement of 300 to have from the Colonies of America when arrived at Boſton in New England, where every thing will firſt be made ready before a further Proceeding is made:

Towards providing of Neceſſaries to make a beginning, and to ſubſiſt the Hands that will firſt be required,

The Directors of the Society to ſend at the preſent time 10000 Pounds Sterling in Goods along with the chief Perſons deputed for the Management of this Affair, part of the Goods for Sale in Boſton, the remainder to be diſpoſed of in the other Colonies: Theſe Goods will advance 140 l. per Cent. and more, as 10000 Pounds Sterling will make 24000 Pounds of that Country Money, to be laid out in the adjacent Colonies, towards a Supply of Proviſion and Neceſſaries when wanted.

The Directors to buy ſeveral Neceſſaries at the preſent time to ſend with them; as Inſtruments, Iron-work, and rough Iron, Arms, Powder and Ball, with Bedding and Clothing, &c. which may come to about 4000 Pounds more, and when put into Ireland to lay out 1000 Pounds for Proviſion and other Neceſſaries, where moſt Things are very cheap, and it will be a great eaſement to the Proceeding.

The next Thing to be entered upon, the Directors to provide two Ships, the largeſt of about 160 Tuns Burthen, the other of 120, ready fitted in the River Thames, to carry the Neceſſaries thither, whereby it will ſave a great Charge of Freight, and when arrived, theſe 2 Ships will be of great Uſe at the Settlement.

Likewiſe to provide Sails, Cordage, and Iron Work, &c. for 5 Sloops of about 60 Tons each, and for 15 Shalops of between 15 and 20 Tons, the value for each Sloop at 120 l. and 50 l. for each Shalop, to be ſent with the other Goods next Spring.

Therefore the preſent providing will come to about 20000 l. Sterling, and 10000 l. more to be ſent in like Goods for Sale ſix or nine Months after, the remainder Sum of 40000 l. propoſe to raiſe, to be kept under the Hands of the Directors till occaſion ſerves.

In the mean time, the Directors to get the Letters Patent granted from the Crown, a Form I have already drawn up, and doubt not but the Directors will have the ſame granted without Alteration, and a particular Gentleman will endeavour to get the ſame granted as ſoon as the Society is formed.

The Form of the Patent may be ſome further Satisfaction to the Publick, therefore the ſame will be kept at the Office for every one toRead that deſires it.

When every Thing is got ready, and put on Board the two Ships that lay ready for the pupoſe,

For the chief Perſons to proceed without loſs of Time for Ireland, afterwards for Boſton in New England, and as ſoon as arrived, to provide a convenient Warehouſe and expoſe the Goods for Sale that are appropriated for the purpoſe, and endeavour to Circulate ſome of the Settlements Bills, out of the Money received for theſe Goods, and what Bills can be Circulated, to provide 5 Sloops and 15 Shalops Hulls, and about 10000 of Deals to build Houſes at firſt Landing at the Place; with other Neceſſaries that may be thought of.

The Sloops are to be imployed on the Coaſting Trade as ſoon as arrived at the Place of Settlement, and the Shalops are to be imployed on the Fiſhery as ſoon.

Our ſtay in Boſton will be ſhort, but to get ready part of theſe Neceſſaries for further Proceeding, and thoſe Sloops and Shalops that are not ready to go with us muſt follow afterwards.

If the Goods cannot all be diſpoſed of in the Colonies, the Damage will be to carry them to the Settlement, where a Vent will be had among the Hands that receive Pay, and with greater Advance out of their Labour.

The Society will gain this Advantage by their Goods ſent at any time for Sale, for they will reap the full Advance of 140 per Cent. and more, towards a Supply of Neceſſaries and Proviſion for the Settlement from the adjacent Colonies, when private Merchants who Trade to thoſe Parts, generally loſe 37 per Cent. and more out of this Advance in their return.

The Coaſting Trade on that Continent will be conſiderable, and the returns to the Settlement will be a great help to maintain the Hands, and towards Improvements, I ſhall mention more largely of the Coaſting Trade in the Branches.

The whole Body of Hands will ſubſiſt on Fiſh twice every Week, and oftner if occaſion requires; it will greatly lengthen out the Stores from Ireland, and what we receive from the Colonies.

Theſe material Articles towards ſubſiſting the Hands and providing of many Neceſſaries, will greatly improve the Settlement, and continue to ſubſiſt the Hands for a long time, till a Breed of Cattle and Growth of Corn is produced at the Place.

And in three Years the Society will carry on a flouriſhing Trade to moſt Parts Abroad, to a conſiderable Profit.

I ſhall now proceed to a ſmall Information of the Method to carry on the ſaid Propoſal.

The Author has good reaſon to hope the Subſcriptions will ſoon be fill'd, and Directors choſen by the firſt of January next, for what is here laid down is both rationable and eaſie to compleat, therefore I ſhall make no Apology to it, nor have not magnified the Undertaking more than each Subſcriber will really find, but rather leave it to every ones Reaſon that reads it, and if they will give themſelves the Trouble to read it the ſecond time, I have that Thought they will approve of the Propoſal, or at leaſt, cannot ſpeak againſt it; but thoſe that read this Propoſal let me deſire of them not to have a Thought of it leſs than 'tis; that is to ſay, an Impoſſibility to go throughout according to this Propoſal, for I have already mentioned, that with God's Bleſſing I can compleat it with eaſe, and will enter into the greateſt Dangers, with my intire Service on that Continent for the Society.

And for Security at our firſt Landing in the River, againſt Treacherous Indians, I do propoſe to have the chief Place of Inhabiting, which will be near the Mouth of the River, Fortified, as to have Mud Walls caſt up, and 20 or more Ship Guns planted on the Land ſide if any attempt ſhould be made by them, but we need not fear it, for 'tis well known in our Colonies, and by many others here in London, that they will not make any attempt againſt ſo conſiderable a Body of Hands; their chiefeſt Miſchief is, to lay in wait by 2 or 3 together and take off ſingle Perſons, but this will be prevented by ſending the Hands out in Parties to

clear

clear the Woods, and our Number of Hands will every Day increaſe, as not to fear any Enemy Indians can hurt the Settlement.

As faſt as the Woods are cleared, to improve the Land with a Breed of Cattle, and Growth of Corn, Hemp and Flax.

And when the Number of Hands are conſiderably increaſed, to form other habitable Places up the River for 2 or 300 Hands at a convenient diſtance from each other, and this to be followed up the River far as 'tis Navigable, and large Dwelling-houſes of Timber between each habitable Place, that will contain 30 or 40 Hands in each Houſe (called Farms) with Out-houſes belonging, for better improving the Land:

And for greater Strength to the Place againſt the Attempts from the French of Canada, and Indians, in their Intereſt, if at any time a War with France ſhould happen, to have the Hands conveniently Cantoned on each ſide the River, that when the French or Indians make Incurſions into the Settlement, they may aſſiſt each other, and without fear of being overcome, by reaſon of their great Number, and they will be often Inſtructed to defend themſelves, and every Hand will be Cantoned where his Buſineſs requires.

When the Settlement is brought in a great Forwardneſs, to maintain ſeveral Companies of other Indians that are in our Intereſt, or white Men to be continually traverſing the Settlement over, and keep the Bounds clear of Enemy Indians; likewiſe to go in queſt and lay wait to cut them off, being no great Number, and in Time clear that great ſpace of deſolate Land of them.

My next Diſcourſe will be concerning the Advantages our adjacent Colonies will reap, particular the Colonies of New Hampſhire and Maſachuſet-Bay.

Firſt, From the Coaſting Trade.

Second, This Settlement will be a ſecure Guard to thoſe that will go and Inhabit other Parts of this deſolate Land, for there ſhall be no Peace made with the Indians of the place without including all our Fellow Subjects Neighbouring to us in the Peace, and if they are found Treacherous afterwards, which ſeveral times they have been, they ſhall buy their Treacherouſneſs as dear, for this Settlement will be in the midſt of 'em, and a great and intire Body, under Command of a few Perſons, that can keep theſe Indians under, for they ſhall be often Inſtructed in Arms, not only to defend themſelves, but to engage their Enemies when Commanded.

I can further Diſcourſe of the Advantages the Settlement can have over the French Colonies in Canada, when a War with France ſhould happen, being no great diſtance from them.

When thoſe Times come they will be ſenſible of it, and more particular, if we receive Supplies from Our other Colonies, that will tire them from contriving, and aſſiſt their Friend Indians againſt any of our Colonies, and incline them to live in Peace.

If Incouragement is given by Subſcription, the Author does not doubt but bring this to Effect, whereby the Inhabitants of the two firſt Colonies adjacent will be greatly eaſed of the Taxes they are now forced to pay for their Security againſt them; and this great ſpace of deſolate Land may be throughout Inhabited, to the great Benefit of our Colonies and increaſe of Trade from hence.

An Objection may be made by ſome, that Trading from this Settlement to the ſeveral Places Abroad as mentioned, will greatly leſſen the Trade of New England.

In Anſwer, This Settlement will produce the contrary Effect, (except to ſome few Intereſted Perſons that have a great part of the New England Trade already in their Hands.) For Inſtance, thoſe ſeveral Engliſh Colonies on that Continent were ſettled one Colony after the other, the firſt Colony was jealous (concerning their Trade) againſt forming a ſecond, and their Jealouſie encreaſed againſt a third, but the contrary Effect has been found, for greater in Number our Colonies are, greater is the Trade among themſelves, likewiſe to and from hence, and other

Parts, But the great Benefit the adjacent Colonies will reap from this Settlement, they will find in length of Time.

By Forming this Settlement, the Subſcribers can't fail of receiving Two Hundred Pounds and more per Cent. per Annum Profit, the like Advantage has not been produced from any of our Colonies.

The Author here Incerts the Number of Branches of Trade that may be carried on together at the Settlement.

1. The Whale Fiſhery.
2. The Cod and Mackarel, ditto.
3. Trading with the Indians of the Place.
4. Supplying Portugal, the Mediterranean, VVeſt Indies, Canary and Madera Iſlands, &c. with Proviſion and many other Neceſſaries, from the Product of the Place.
5. Building of Ships, &c. for the Society and other Perſons.
6. The Coaſting Trade.

1. *The Whale Fiſhery.*

The Whale Fiſhery, there are many on the Coaſt of New England every Year, the Charge will be no more then to ſend 3 or 4 large Sloops from the Settlement with a competent Number of Hands to go in queſt of them, and the Author does not doubt but a good Account will be given of the Succeſs.

2. *The Cod and Mackerel Fiſhery.*

The Cod and Mackerel Fiſhery, the beſt of the Cod after it is cured is culled out and ſent for Portugal and up the Mediterranean; this Fiſh is diſtinguiſhed from the other by the Name of Merchantable Fiſh; the reſt of the Cod that is not ſo well cured, is called Refuge Fiſh, and is ſent for the Weſt Indies.

Likewiſe Mackerel ſalted in Barrel will be ſent with the Refuge Cod, towards ſubſiſting the great Number of Negroes in our Leeward Iſlands, and it is well known this Fiſh turns to a good Account; the Charge of this Branch and all others that will be carried on at the Settlement, will be defrayed every Year from the Profit of any one Branch there carried on; and in my Opinion the moſt likely Branch to be appropriated for this uſe, to be the Coaſting Trade.

Portugal and the Mediteranian will be ſupplied every Year with about 30000 Quintals of Merchantable dry Cod Fiſh, equal to Newfoundland Fiſh.

Our Leeward Iſlands in the Weſt Indies, will be ſupplied with a greater quantity of Refuge Cod and Mackerel.

The Merchantable Fiſh will be ſold at Market for ſix Mill Rees and more per Quintal, each Mill Ree is 5 s. 5 d. ½ Engliſh; Refuge Cod and Mackerel bears as good a Price in Proportion in the Weſt Indies.

Two and more Ships loaded, containing above 10000 Quintals of Merchantable Fiſh, and a greater quantity of Refuge, will be ſent to their ſeveral Markets ſooner every Seaſon by a Month or ſix Weeks, then private Merchants or others, can from Newfound-Land or New England. And my Reaſon for declaring ſo, I have here inſerted.

The Cod Fiſhery is ſooner by ſix Weeks on the Eaſtern Coaſt of New England, then on the Coaſt of Newfoundland, for they are longer Frozen up. But the great diſtance the Inhabitants of New England are obliged to go does retard the Time, for the neareſt Place that ſends out Fiſhing Sloops to the Banks, is from Piſcataway River of about fifty Leagues, and the uncertainty of Weather ſo ſoon of the Seaſon,

Seaſon, (they having no ſecure Place of Harbouring in the Eaſtern Parts when bad Weather approaches, for fear of the Indians) does give a hindrance to them.

Theſe hindrances does make thoſe of New England and Newfoundland equal a Fiſhing on their Banks together, but late by ſix Weeks of the Seaſon.)—

About the expected time the Fiſh is cured and ready for Market, there does arrive many Ships to both Places on Merchants Accounts to load this Fiſh for Portugal and the Mediterranean, which makes more Buyers than Sellers at firſt of the Seaſon; this Fiſh being in ſeveral Hands, they take advantage to raiſe the Price, and the Buyers will not haſten to load at their Price, does prolong the Time, (tho dear bought at laſt) and when the Fiſh arrives at Market, Merchants often meet with loſs in the Sale through Reaſon they give a great Price for this Fiſh at firſt, and a conſiderable Charge for Freight.

Whereas from this Settlement, the ſeveral Places will be ſupplyed with conſiderable quantities of Fiſh without loſs of time every Seaſon, or paying ſo large a Price for each Quintal, and Freight as private Merchants do; and without being ſurplanted by others, occaſioned by great Number of Ships arrive together on the ſame account.

For the River propoſed to ſettle, is near to theſe Fiſhing Banks, and the Settlements Sloops will be ſooner a Fiſhing by a Month than others can; likewiſe ſmall Shalops from the Settlement will be getting of Cod Fiſh along the Coaſt in abundance, the Sloops will return every Week, or when bad Weather approaches, with what Fiſh they have caught, and the Shalops will return every Day or two.

This Expedition of getting Fiſh will give great diſpatch to Time, and Care ſhall be taken in curing them that they ſhall not be very Salt and Sun burnt, ſo as to make this Fiſh equal that of Newfoundland, which two Misfortunes does greatly attend New England Fiſh.

And as ſoon as the Fiſh is cured, to put them on Board the Societies Ships that lay ready at the Settlement for the purpoſe.

3. *Trading with the Indians of the Place.*

Trading with the Indians of the Place for the Skins of Wild Beaſt, called Fur, as Mink, Otter, Raccoon, and Beaver, &c. the Goods required of them in Exchange is Blankets, Rum and Tobacco, with Powder and Ball when in Friendſhip with our other Colonies, the Advance of theſe Goods will be 500 per Cent. and more. 61

The Author does not queſtion, with good Uſage to gain the Indians Friendſhip, and ingroſs this Branch from other Traders; great Care ſhall be taken to give them Incouragement.

4. *Portugal and the Mediterranean.*

Portugal and the Mediteranean will be ſupplied every Year with ſeveral Ships loaded with Merchantable dry Cod, Corn, Raw Hides, and Hemp, &c.

The Weſt Indies will be ſupplied with many Ships loaded with Beef and Pork Salted in Barrel, Sheep, Corn, Refuge Cod and Mackerel, and many other uſeful Neceſſaries, as Horſes, Tallow, great and ſmall Timber, Plank, Deals, and Hogſhead Staves, &c.

Madera and Canary Iſlands will be ſupplied with great and ſmall Timber and Pipe Staves, &c.

Here at Home will be ſupplied with ſeveral Ships loaded with Hemp, Flax, Oil, Whalebone, Turpentine, Fur, Maſts and Yards, Staves, Plank, and Deals, &c.

And for greater diſpatch to Plank and Deals, the Author Propoſes to have ſeveral Sawing Mills on the ſame River; each Mill will Saw 2000 Foot and more every 24 Hours; there are many of the like Mills in thoſe Parts, particular at New Exeter.

Three or more of the Ships that go loaded to Portugal and the Mediteranean, to return back after they have delivered their Loading, for the Settlement by the Isle of May, and there Load with Salt for curing the Fish, and for other Uses.

Altho' it may be about 200 Leagues out of the Ships right Course from the Streights to the Settlement, yet it is inconsiderable to a Ship under Sail, and to have such a Supply of Salt for Loading.

The same to be followed by some of the Ships that go to and from the West-Indies, for after they have delivered their Loading, to Sail for Saltatuda, and there likewise Load with Salt, and return to the Settlement, with other Necessaries they take Aboard from the West Indies, as Negroes, Rum, Sugar, and Molosses; this small Consideration from thence will be inconsiderable to the great Value sent there every Year.

All other Ships to return Home hither with the Product of the several Places the Settlement Trades to, in lieu of Supplies they receive from the Settlement.

5. *For Building of Ships and Sloops*, &c.

Building of Ships and Sloops from the least Burden for Service at the Settlement, and other Places; to the greatest Merchant Ship required to Export the several Goods abroad which the Settlement produces, whereby a great Charge will be saved, which will cost in hiring of strange Ships.

Tho' a contrary Method is followed here at Home by the East India and South-Sea Companies which is thought by them to be the less Charge, by reason the great Cost of River Thames built Ships, and afterwards great Impositions are put on a Company for Repairings, with other Charges they must be at; but when hired from others their Charge is known.

But to build Ships at the Settlement for the Society, will have the contrary Effect, for the Charge of every Ship, or Vessels Hull, as Timber and Building will be inconsiderable, the Timber is growing on the Place of Settlement, and the Building with Repairings when come to damage, is included as one of the Branches there carried on, the Charge of maintaining every Branch as already been mentioned; therefore no Impositions can be made on the Society to Ships Hulls, and in less than two Years after our arrival there, soon as the Timber is fell'd, and well seasoned for Building; the Societies Ships and Vessels will be provided with all other Necessaries belonging to them, as great and small Cordage, Cables, Sails, Anchors, and Iron Work, &c. without being supplied out of the Profits, or otherways by the Society, thro' this means.

Private Merchants and others may be supplied at any time with Ships of several Burdens, Masts and Yards belonging, with Provision and other Goods; to have these and other Necessaries every Year in Exchange.

Private Builders in those Parts build their Ships more for Profit than Honesty, which occasions an ill Report to be given of all New England built Ships.

Whereas Building of Ships at the Settlement will be with Honesty between Party and Party, both for Credit and to gain Merchants and others to have Ships built there.

When the Societies Ships are damaged by bad Weather in their Passage from, and to the Settlement, they will be supplied with new Masts, Yards, great and small Cordage, Sails, &c. when come or return again to the Settlement, and any other Ships may be assisted with the like, if they come to damage in their Passage to that Continent, or from the West-Indies, if put in at the Settlement without loss of Time, the Place is about half the distance between the West-Indies and Home, and not many Leagues from their right Course, the Profits to be ordered as a help towards maintaining the Settlement, if the Profit of the Coasting Trade is found to be deficient.

The Societies Ships will be Victualled rvery Year with Flower, Bisket, Beef, Pork, Peas, Fish and Beer, and after these Ships have been made use of, for eight or

ten

ten Years to diſpoſe of them, and be again provided with a new Ship as mentioned.

Theſe material Articles will make the Building of Ships cheaper than hiring of them.

The Society will increaſe in Shipping every Year; and in ſix Years they will have many Ships of their own, ready provided for any Voyage, at an inconſiderable Charge, thro' the Means as mention'd.

6. *The Coaſting Trade.*

The Coaſting Trade on that Continent will come to conſiderable, the Profits of this Branch to be towards maintaining the Settlement in Neceſſaries, &c. and it may be carried on as ſoon as arrive at the Place of Settlement.

The Profits of this Branch will increaſe every Year, and in a few Years a flouriſhing Trade will be carried on from the Settlement to our ſeveral Colonies there, as to ſupply Newfoundland, New England, New York, &c. with ſeveral large Sloops loaded with Salt and freſh Proviſion and Corn at a moderate Price, other Neceſſaries, as Hemp, and Salt for curing their Fiſh, great and ſmall Timber ready formed for Uſe, Planks, Deals, Staves, and ſmall Wood for Firing; in Boſton only is a great Conſumption every Year, the Price is 18 and 20 Shillings per Cord.

Likewiſe there is in Boſton ſeveral Rope Grounds, and a conſiderable quantity of Cordage is every Year made, but the Hemp at preſent is ſent from hence.

The Weſtern Iſlands lying almoſt in a direct Line from Portugal to the Settlement, and about mid-way, belonging to the Portugueſe, may be ſupplied with ſeveral Neceſſaries every Year, the Sloops that go on this Service to return again to the Settlement with their Wines in lieu of ſuch Loading, the Wines to be ſold with other Liquors to the Hands imployed.

Having gone through the Propoſal at large, the Author comes now to the Rule to be obſerved and followed here at Home, by the whole Body of Subſcribers.

They are digeſted into Articles.

I. TO carry on ſo neceſſary and profitable Undertaking, a Book is opened for the ſame purpoſe to take Subſcriptions, at the Sword Blade Coffee houſe the Corner of Exchange Alley in Burchin Lane

II. And whereas ſeveral Perſons may be out of Employ,

By Subſcribing to this Propoſal will intitle them to preſent Buſineſs in it, either at Home or Abroad, for many Perſons of ſeveral Degrees and Capacity will be wanted to be employed in this Undertaking, and thoſe that do Subſcribe will have the advantagious Places before others, which Rule ſhall conſtantly be obſerved and made firm;

Except ſome few Places reſerved by the Directors to put ſuch Perſons in that have a Knowledge of the Undertaking more than any Subſcriber, for the Benefit of the whole Body, whether the Perſon employed Subſcribes or not.

III. It is not every Perſon out of Buſineſs has much Money to Subſcribe, tho' willing to it, therefore through this Conſideration, the Author will divide the Subſcriptions in two Claſſes.

The firſt Claſs not exceeding 750 Subſcriptions at 40 l. each, the ſecond Claſs not exceeding 500 Subſcriptions, at 20 l. each, theſe two Claſſes makes the Sum of 40000 l. Sterling as propoſed:

Except one Shilling advance per Pound in each Subſcription, called Subſcription Money, to be paid to the Contriver or Author hereof, or his Aſſigns ~~at the time of Subſcription; and one Shilling per Pound when every Dividend is made, for the Charges hereafter will be mentioned.~~

IV. That any Perſon whatſoever, either Native or Foreigner, may here Subſcribe; and perticular Traders in London that does vend ſeveral ſorts of Goods, here is a fair Invitation, for many ſuch Goods will be greatly required in the Undertaking, both at Home and Abroad; the Settlement and other Places will conſume a great quantity of Engliſh Goods every Year, not mentioning the Conſumption at Home.

Therefore all ſuch Traders that do Subſcribe, will intitle them to the Priviledge of ſupplying the Society before others; and it will come to a conſiderable Value every Year.

V. Every Subſcriber ſhall receive an Inſtrument from the whole Body of Directors ſoon as choſen, of the full value they Subſcribed.

And their Dividend of the Profits ſhall be paid them in two Payments, one on the 10th of June, the other on the 10th of December every Year.

VI. If any Subſcriber happen to die, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, upon producing the Inſtrument delivered by the firſt Body of Directors, ſhall receive the Devidend of the Profits made from time to time, and they ſhall act in full Force and Power of the Priviledges granted to the deceaſed when he was alive, or in acting.

VII. That every Purchaſer in the greateſt Claſs only, ſhall have as many Votes he Subſcribes, and when the Subſcription of both Claſſes ſhall be compleat, if before the firſt of December next, but no longer, (for at the time the Subſcription Books will be cloſed with ſuch Perſons Names that have Subſcribed) they ſhall have nine Days Notice given in a publick News-Paper, for the Subſcribers to meet at ſome convenient Place in London, but only the Subſcribers in the firſt Claſs ſhall have the liberty to chuſe eight Directors by majority of Voices.

VIII. No Subſcriber whatſoever to have the liberty of being choſen a Director under 100 l. Subſcription, and new Directors ſhall be choſen every Year; but the Contriver or Author hereof, his Heirs, Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, ſhall always in his or their Right without Election, be a Director in as full a manner as any Perſon which ſhall be Elected.

And whereas the Author will be required on the Continent of America to carry on this Undertaking for the Benefit of the Society, ~~ſhall always in his Abſence appoint any one Perſon to exerciſe the Office of a Director for him, and in the ſame Power.~~

IX. Each Director ſhall have a Sallary of 150 l. Sterling per Ann. and the Sallary of every other Perſon employed both at Home and Abroad in this Undertaking, to be conſidered by the Directors; and they to appoint to every Perſon a certain Sallary according in what Station they are employed; the ſame to be allowed on the Societies Account.

X. If the Purchaſe Money be not paid within twenty Days after the Directors are choſen, the Subſcription ſhall be null and void, and the vacancy filled by another as ſoon as poſſible, that no Time may be loſt next Spring in the proceeding.

But for thoſe that will pay their Purchaſe-Money within five Days after the Directors are choſen, to any three of them at the Office, ſhall be allowed 20 s. in the firſt Claſs, and 10 s. in the ſecond Claſs, out of the ſaid Purchaſe-Money.

XI.

XI. The Sum Subſcribed ſhall be in Poſſeſſion of the whole Body of Directors, to order and provide the Neceſſaries mentioned in this Propoſal, and whereas a great part of this Sum will not preſently be laid out, the ſame ſhall be ſecured in the Bank of England, or other Place of Security, at Intereſt, till wanted in this Undertaking.

XII. In Conſideration of the Advantages reſerved to the Contriver or Author hereof, mentioned in the third and eight Article, does engage for himſelf, his Heirs, Executors, Adminiſtrators, and Aſſigns, he or they at his or their own Coſt and Charge during the carrying on this Affair, to provide a convenient Place for the Office well Furniſhed, and provided with Neceſſaries for the Undertaking, likewiſe Fire and Candles, but not for other kind of Management at Home or Abroad.

Gentlemen, excuſe my ſo often Repetition of ſeveral Paragraphs in this Propoſal My ſo doing, is only the material Paragraphs, to put you often in mind of the great Advantages that will be reaped, which through courſe of Reading may be forgot.

Many a profitable Undertaking has miſcarried here in London, only by inſerting the Word Propoſal in the Front Page, and it is now look'd upon as a By-Word for Impoſing and Cheating the Publick, occaſioned through the many evil deſigned Perſons that have made it their Buſineſs: However, ſeveral Undertakings both Abroad and at Home, is now carried on to a conſiderable Profit to thoſe that did ingage themſelves, whoſe firſt beginning was by Propoſal.

Therefore the Author gives himſelf this Encouragement, that what he here propoſes is Truth, and no deſign to defraud the Publick; many Thouſands of Perſons both in London and America do well know the Efficacy of it.

NB. Whereas many Perſons will come for a Propoſal, if it is given away Gratis, they come more for Information of Knowledge than real deſign to Subſcribe; therefore the Author lays a certain Value on each Propoſal, towards defraying of Charge, and thoſe that come with ſuch intents may have them according to the Price mentioned at the bottom of the Front Page:

But thoſe that do Subſcribe may have five or ſix of theſe Propoſals preſented to them if deſired.

F I N I S.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM